

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re New Patent Application of)
Junichiro SAKATA et al.)
Japanese Priority Application No. 2003-037375) Attn: Applications
Japanese Priority Date: February 14, 2003) Branch
For: MANUFACTURING APPARATUS) Date: February 10, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

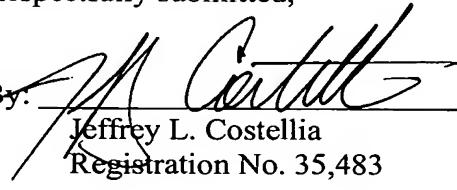
Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby submit the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98, a copy of each of the documents cited is enclosed.

U.S. Patent Application No. US 2001/0006827 A1 is in the same family as Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-247959, and U.S. Patent Application No. US 2002/0011205 A1 is in the same family as Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2002-060926.

It is requested that the accompanying PTO-1449 be considered and made of record in the above-identified application. To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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<p>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i></p>				<p><i>Complete if Known</i></p>	
				Application Number	New Application
				Filing Date	February 10, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Junichiro SAKATA et al.
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	740756-2713

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ⁵	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴				
		JP 2002-060926	02/28/2002	Yamazaki et al.		Abstract
		JP 2001-247959	09/14/2001	Yamazaki et al.		Abstract
		JP 2001-093667	04/06/2001	Sano et al.		Abstract

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.		T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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***EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.